

Discussion guide: Leading and Living Secure - John 3:22-36

Discussion: For group discussion to be fruitful and engaging for everyone in your group, make sure that your discussion groups are not larger than 4 people. If possible, break up into groups of 2 or 3.

Larger Group: (5 minutes)

- Welcome everyone
- Introduce the direction for the evening.
 - Read John 3:32-36 highlight the following
 - The starting place of this conversation is that Jesus is extremely generous and he has ultimate authority!
 - Our goal is that we would live and lead from a place of security because of our relationship with Jesus.
 - Let us live secure and joyful lives because we have God's word and His Spirit dwelling in us!

Prepare to break into smaller groups

Smaller Groups (20-25 minutes) Give the following instructions and break into small groups (2-3 people).

Have someone read John 3:22-26. John's disciples are acting insecurely by exaggerating, dehumanizing, and comparing themselves to what Jesus and his disciples were doing.

- What types of people make you feel insecure?
- What is a key source of insecurity in your life?
- What is a recent situation that you felt insecure about?
 - How did your behavior change when you felt insecure?
 - How did you feel about other people in that situation?

Have someone read John 3:26-29. John is secure because he knows his identity, he accepts his limitations, and focuses his worship on Jesus!

- What are some ways that your identity is connected to what you do?
 - Why is it difficult for you to disconnect your identity from what you do?
 - What are some challenges that you have with receiving your identity from Christ rather than achieving your identity from your own efforts?
- How comfortable are you with your limitations?
 - What are some ways that your limitations can become sources of worship and glory for God?
 - How can our group help one another to decrease so that Christ can increase in our lives?

(see more on next page)

Larger Group:

Return to larger group to give summary of your discussion in smaller groups (5-10 minutes)

Allow time to pray for the lost, end with B.L.E.S.S. (10-15 minutes)

Where are group members in the B.L.E.S.S. process? Model for them how to answer briefly, for example:

"I'm praying for _____".

"I have been having good conversations with _____".

"I'm having lunch with _____
on _____ (day of the week)."

Closing prayer - (2-5-minutes)